What is TNR?

Trap-Neuter-Return, or TNR — sometimes referred to as TNRM (Monitor), is a program designed to manage the overpopulation of cats and reduce rates of euthanization. Cats are humanely trapped, sterilized (females are spayed; males are neutered), vaccinated, returned to their outdoor colonies, and monitored.

Monitoring feral colonies includes providing shelters, feeding, and ensuring the cats do not become ill or injured. Kittens and other social cats who are able to be housetrained and socialized can be taken in through a rescue agency, like AVA, and adopted into loving homes.

The City of Toronto's feral cat population was once estimated to be as high as 100,000. Since 2010, that estimate has dropped to approximately 17,000.

In general, the cost of TNR is less than half the cost of trapping, holding, killing, and disposing of a cat. TNR is a proven humane, non-lethal, long-term solution to free-roaming cat overpopulation.

For over 30 years, AVA volunteers have been leading the way in TNR practices, monitoring feral cat colonies around the GTA and Southern Ontario. Our goal is to continue to improve the lives of feral, stray and free-roaming cats in local neighbourhoods and communities.

Learn more about us —
avacats.org

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